

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 and 6-13, as amended, remain herein. Claims 2, 4 and 5 are cancelled. Claims 11-13 are presently withdrawn from consideration. Support for the claim amendments may be found in original claims 1 and 5.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to avoid any § 112 rejection. Applicants respectfully request allowance of claim 6, which has been amended to include the limitations of its former parent claim 1.

1. The title has been amended, mooted the objection thereto.
2. Claims 1-3 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Bean U.S. Patent Application 2003/0146981. Claim 2 has been cancelled, mooted the rejection thereof. Bean fails to disclose a system control section that “automatically switches the frame mode and the photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order,” as recited in applicants’ amended claim 1. To the contrary, Bean discloses a camera that adjusts the frame rate of the camera according to the force applied to a trigger by a user. Since the user can change the frame rate by pressing the trigger, the frame rate is not switched “in a predetermined order” as recited in applicants’ claim 1. Further, Bean fails to disclose that a frame mode is adjusted in parallel with a photographing parameter, as recited in applicants’ amended claim 1. For example, applicants’ Fig. 8(a) shows an automatic switching section that automatically switches the frame mode and the set time in parallel, which Bean does not disclose.

Since Bean fails to disclose every element of applicants’ claim 1, Bean is an inadequate basis for rejecting claims 1, 3 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

3. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bean and Ip U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0033051. For the reasons stated above, Bean fails to disclose every element of applicants' claim 1, from which claim 8 depends. Ip fails to disclose what Bean lacks. Ip discloses a system for varying frame rates at which video is displayed on a screen. Ip fails to disclose "automatically switches the frame mode and the photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order," as recited in applicants' amended claim 1. Nor would it have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify or combine Bean and Ip to provide every element of applicants' claim 1. Nothing in either Bean or Ip would have provided any motivation to one of ordinary skill in this art to automatically switch the frame mode and a photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order. For the foregoing reasons, Bean and Ip are inadequate grounds for rejecting claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

4. Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bean, Ip, and Soya. As discussed above in Section 3, Bean and Ip fail to disclose every element of applicants' claim 1, from which claims 9 and 10 depend. Soya fails to disclose what Bean and Ip lack. Soya discloses a camera that switches between preset photographing modes, including at least one high-speed mode and at least one low-speed mode. Soya fails to disclose "automatically switches the frame mode and the photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order," as recited in applicants' amended claim 1.

Nor would it have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify or combine Bean, Ip, and Soya to provide every element of applicants' claim 1. Nothing in any of Bean, Ip, or Soya would have provided any motivation to one of ordinary skill in this art to automatically switch

the frame mode and a photographing parameter in parallel in a predetermined order. For the foregoing reasons, Bean, Ip, and Soya are inadequate grounds for rejecting claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Accordingly, all claims 1, 3 and 6-10 are now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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